

Kindly amend the claims as follows:

### **LISTING OF THE CLAIMS**

Claim 1 (currently amended): A package comprising a seal of a first outer film layer to a second outer film layer, the first outer film layer comprising a composition comprising:

- (A) a first component comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of polyethylene homopolymer, and ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer; and
- (B) a second component comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of elastomer, ~~plastomer~~ and homogeneous ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer having a density of from about 0.86 to 0.91 g/cc, and carboxyl-modified polyethylene; and

wherein the second outer film layer comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of ionomer, ethylene/acid copolymer, ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymer and ethylene/acrylate copolymer.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The package according to claim 1, wherein the first component comprises a first ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer having a first Vicat softening point, and the second component comprises ~~a second ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer plastomer~~ homogeneous ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer having a density of from about 0.86 to 0.91 g/cc and having a second Vicat softening point, wherein a difference between the first Vicat softening point and the second Vicat softening point is from about 1°C to 100°C.

Claim 3 (original): The package according to claim 2, wherein the difference between the first Vicat softening point and the second Vicat softening point is from about 20°C to 50°C.

Claim 4 (original): The package according to claim 3, wherein the second outer layer comprises ionomer.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The package according to claim 1, wherein the first component comprises ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer having a density of from about 0.88 g/cc to 0.93 g/cc, and the second component comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of elastomer, ~~plastomer~~ homogeneous ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer having a density of from about 0.86 to 0.879 g/cc, ionomer, and carboxyl-modified polyethylene.

Claim 6 (original): The package according to claim 5, wherein the second outer layer comprises ionomer.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The package according to claim 5, wherein:  
the first component comprises a homogeneous ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer having a density of from about 0.88 to 0.92 g/cc;  
the second component comprises a homogeneous ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer ~~plastomer~~ having a density of from about 0.86 to 0.879 g/cc; and  
the second outer layer comprises ionomer.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The package according to claim 7, wherein in the first component, the homogeneous ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer has a density of from about 0.90 to 0.915 g/cc.

Claim 9 (original): The package according to claim 1, wherein the first outer film layer is in a first multilayer film.

Claim 10 (original): The package according to claim 9, wherein the second outer film layer is in a second film.

Claim 11 (original): The package according to claim 10, wherein the second film is a second multilayer film.

Claim 12 (original): The package according to claim 5, wherein the first outer film layer has a seal initiation temperature of from about 175°F to 300°F.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The package according to claim 12, wherein the first outer film layer has a seal initiation temperature of from about 175°F to 200°F.

Claim 14 (original): The package according to claim 5, wherein the composition in the first outer layer comprises from about 5 to 95 weight percent of the first component with from about 95 to 5 weight percent of the second component.

Claim 15 (original): The package according to claim 14, wherein the composition in the first outer layer comprises from about 50 to 75 weight percent of the first component with from 50 to 25 weight percent of the second component.

Claim 16 (currently amended): A package comprising a seal of a first outer film layer to a second outer film layer, the first outer film layer comprising a composition comprising:

- (A) a first component comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of ethylene vinyl acetate copolymer, and ethylene/acrylate copolymer; and
- (B) a second component comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of elastomer, and homogeneous ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer having a density of from about 0.86 to 0.91 g/cc ~~plastomer, and carboxyl-modified polyethylene~~; and

the second outer film layer comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of ionomer, ethylene/acid copolymer, ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymer, and ethylene/acrylate copolymer.

Claim 17 (original): The package according to claim 16, wherein the first outer film layer comprises an ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymer having a vinyl acetate content of from about 1 percent to 26 percent.

Claim 18 (original): The package according to claim 17, wherein the composition in the first outer layer comprises from about 20 to 70 weight percent of the first component with from about 80 to 30 weight percent of the second component.

Claim 19 (currently amended): A package comprising a seal of a region of a first outer film layer to a region of a second outer film layer, wherein each of the outer film layers comprises a composition comprising:

- (A) a first component comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of polyethylene homopolymer, ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer, ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymer, and ethylene/acrylate copolymer; and
- (B) a second component comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of elastomer, and homogeneous ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer having a density of from about 0.86 to 0.91 g/cc. ~~plastomer, and carboxyl-modified polyethylene.~~

Claim 20 (currently amended): The package according to claim 19, wherein the first component comprises a first ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer having a first Vicat softening point, and the second component comprises homogeneous ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer having a density of from about 0.86 to 0.91 g/cc and ~~a second ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer plastomer~~ having a second Vicat softening point, and wherein a difference between the first Vicat softening point and the second Vicat softening point is from about 1°C to 100°C.

Claim 21 (original): The package according to claim 20, wherein the difference between the first Vicat softening point and the second Vicat softening point is from about 20°C to 50°C.

Claim 22 (currently amended): The package according to claim 19, wherein the first component comprises ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer having a density of from about 0.88 g/cc to 0.93 g/cc, and the second component comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of elastomer, and homogeneous ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer having a density of from about 0.86 to 0.879 g/cc. ~~plastomer, and carboxyl-modified polyethylene.~~

Claim 23 (currently amended): The package according to claim 22, wherein:

the first component comprises a homogeneous ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer having a density of from about 0.88 to 0.92 g/cc;

the second component comprises a homogeneous ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer ~~plastomer~~ having a density of from about 0.86 to 0.879 g/cc; and

the second outer layer comprises ionomer.

Claim 24 (original): The package according to claim 22, wherein the first outer film layer has a seal initiation temperature of from about 175°F to 300°F.

Claim 25 (original): The package according to claim 24 wherein the first outer film layer has a seal initiation temperature of from about 175°F to 250°F.

Claim 26 (original): The package according to claim 22, wherein the composition in the first outer layer comprises from about 5 to 95 weight percent of the first component with from about 95 to 5 weight percent of the second component.

Claim 27 (original): The package according to claim 26, wherein the composition in the first outer layer comprises from about 50 to 75 weight percent of the first component with from 50 to 25 weight percent of the second component.

Claims 28-39 (canceled)

Claim 40 (original): A package comprising a seal of a first region of a first outer film layer to a second region of a second outer film layer, wherein the first outer film layer comprises a homogeneous ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer, and the second outer film layer comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of ionomer, ethylene/acid copolymer, carboxyl-modified polyethylene, wherein the seal has a strength of at least 2 lb/in.

Claim 41 (currently amended): The package according to claim 40, wherein the homogeneous ethylene alpha-olefin copolymer has a density of from about 0.86 to 0.93 g/cc.

Claim 42 (currently amended): The package according to claim 40, wherein the homogeneous ethylene alpha-olefin copolymer has a density of from about 0.86 to 0.91 g/cc.

Claim 43 (currently amended): The package according to claim 40, wherein the homogeneous ethylene alpha-olefin copolymer has a density of from about 0.86 to 0.905 g/cc.

Claim 44 (original): The package according to claim 40, wherein the seal has a strength of from about 2 to 10 lb/in.

Claim 45 (original): The package according to claim 44, wherein the seal has a strength of from about 3 to 10 lb/in.

Claim 46 (currently amended): A film comprising a composition comprising an outer layer comprising:

a first component comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of polyethylene homopolymer, ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer, ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymer, and ethylene/acrylate copolymer; and

a second component comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of elastomer, and homogeneous ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer having a density of from about 0.86 to 0.91 g/cc. ~~plastomer, and carboxyl-modified polyethylene.~~

Claim 47 (original): The film according to claim 46, wherein the film is a monolayer film.

Claim 48 (original): The film according to claim 46, wherein the film is a multilayer film, and the composition is in a first layer, the first layer being an outer sealant layer, the film further comprising:

a second layer, the second layer being an oxygen-barrier layer;



a third layer, the third layer being a tie layer between the second layer and the first layer;  
a fourth layer, the third layer being a thermoforming, abuse, and ultraviolet-protection layer between the second layer and the third layer;  
a fifth layer, the fifth layer being a thermoforming, abuse, and heat-resistant outer layer;  
a sixth layer, the sixth layer being a thermoforming, abuse, and ultraviolet-protection layer between the fifth layer and the second layer;  
a seventh layer, the seventh layer being a tie layer between the fifth layer and the sixth layer.

Claim 49 (currently amended): A multilayer film comprising:

a first layer, the first layer being an outer sealant layer, the outer sealant layer comprising a first composition, the first composition comprising:

- (A) a first component comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of polyethylene homopolymer, ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer, ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymer, and ethylene/acrylate copolymer; and
- (B) a second component comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of elastomer, and homogeneous ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer having a density of from about 0.86 to 0.91 g/cc; and ~~plastomer, and carboxyl-modified polyethylene; and~~

a second layer, the second layer comprising a second composition, the second composition comprising:

- (C) a third component comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of polyethylene homopolymer, ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer, ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymer, and ethylene/acrylate copolymer; and
- (D) a fourth component comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of elastomer, ~~plastomer,~~ homogeneous ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer having a density of from about 0.86 to 0.91 g/cc, and ionomer; ~~and carboxyl-modified polyethylene;~~

wherein the first composition is different from the second composition.

Claim 50 (original): The multilayer film according to claim 49, further comprising a third layer, the third layer being an outer bulk layer, the third layer comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of low density polyethylene, linear low density polyethylene, polypropylene copolymer, and ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymer, the second layer being between the first layer and the third layer.

Claim 51 (original): The multilayer film according to claim 50, wherein the third layer comprises a third composition, the third composition comprising low density polyethylene and linear low density polyethylene.

Claim 52 (original): The multilayer film according to claim 49, wherein the multilayer film further comprises:

a third layer, the third layer being an O<sub>2</sub> barrier layer, the second layer being between the first layer and the third layer;

a fourth layer, the fourth layer being a thermoforming and abuse layer, the fourth layer being between the second layer and the third layer;

a fifth layer, the fifth layer being a thermoforming and abuse layer;

a sixth layer, the sixth layer being a tie layer, the sixth layer being between the second layer and the fourth layer;

a seventh layer, the seventh layer being an outer layer and being a heat-resistant and thermoforming layer, the fifth layer being between the third layer and the seventh layer;

an eighth layer, the eighth layer being a tie layer, the eighth layer being between the fifth layer and the seventh layer; and

an ninth layer, the ninth layer being a thermoforming and abuse layer, the ninth layer being between the seventh layer and the eighth layer.

Claim 53 (currently amended): A multilayer film, comprising:

(A) first layer, the first layer being a seal-assist layer, the seal-assist layer comprising a first composition, the first composition comprising:



- (i) a first component comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of polyethylene homopolymer, ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer, ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymer, and ethylene/acrylate copolymer; and
  - (ii) a second component comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of elastomer, ~~plastomer~~, homogeneous ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer having a density of from about 0.86 to 0.91 g/cc; and ~~ionomer, and carboxyl-modified polyethylene; and~~
- (B) a second layer, the second layer being an outer sealant layer, the outer sealant layer comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of ionomer, ethylene/acid copolymer, and carboxyl-modified polyethylene.

Claim 54 (original): The multilayer film according to claim 53, further comprising third layer, the third layer being an outer layer and a bulk layer, the third layer comprising a second composition, the second composition comprising at least one member selected from the consisting of low density polyethylene, linear low density polyethylene, polypropylene copolymer, and ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymer, wherein the first layer is between the second layer and the third layer.

Claim 55 (original): The multilayer film according to claim 54, wherein the second composition comprises low density polyethylene and linear low density polyethylene.

Claim 56 (original): The multilayer film according to claim 53, further comprising:  
a third layer, the third layer being an outer layer as well as a thermoforming and heat-resistant layer; and  
a fourth layer, the fourth layer being a tie layer, the fourth layer being between the first layer and the third layer.

Claim 57 (original): The multilayer film according to claim 53, further comprising:  
a third layer, the third layer being an O<sub>2</sub> barrier layer, the first layer being between the second layer and the third layer;

a fourth layer, the fourth layer being a tie layer, the fourth layer being between the first layer and the third layer;

a fifth layer, the fifth layer being an thermoforming and abuse layer, the fifth layer being between the third layer and the fourth layer;

a sixth layer, the sixth layer being a thermoforming and abuse layer, the third layer being between the fifth layer and the sixth layer;

a seventh layer, the seventh layer being an outer layer as well as a heat-resistant and thermoforming layer, the sixth layer being between the third layer and the seventh layer;

an eighth layer, the eighth layer being a tie layer, the eighth layer being between the sixth layer and the seventh layer; and

a ninth layer, the ninth layer being a thermoforming and abuse layer, the ninth layer being between the seventh layer and the eighth layer.

Claim 58 (original): The multilayer film according to claim 53, further comprising:

a third layer, the third layer being an O<sub>2</sub> barrier layer, the first layer being between the second layer and the third layer;

a fourth layer, the fourth layer being an outer layer as well as a thermoforming, abuse, and heat-resistant layer, the third layer being between the first layer and the fourth layer;

a fifth layer, the fifth layer being a thermoforming, abuse, and ultraviolet-protection layer, the fifth layer being between the first layer and the third layer;

a sixth layer, the sixth layer being a thermoforming, abuse, and ultraviolet-protection layer, the sixth layer being between the third layer and the fourth layer;

a seventh layer, the seventh layer being a tie layer, the seventh layer being between the first layer and the fifth layer; and

an eighth layer, the eighth layer being a tie layer, the eighth layer being between the fourth layer and the sixth layer.

Claim 59 (original): The multilayer film according to claim 53, further comprising:

a third layer, the third layer being a tie layer, the first layer being between the second layer and the third layer;

a fourth layer, the fourth layer being an outer layer as well as a thermoforming, abuse, and heat-resistant layer, the third layer being between the first layer and the fourth layer;

a fifth layer, the fifth layer being a thermoforming, abuse, and ultraviolet-protection layer, the fifth layer being between the first layer and the third layer;

a sixth layer, the sixth layer being a thermoforming, abuse, and ultraviolet-protection layer, the sixth layer being between the third layer and the fourth layer;

a seventh layer, the seventh layer being a tie layer, the seventh layer being between the first layer and the fifth layer; and

an eighth layer, the eighth layer being a tie layer, the eighth layer being between the fourth layer and the sixth layer.

Claim 60 (currently amended): A multilayer film, comprising:

a first layer, the first layer being an outer sealant layer as well as a food-contact layer, the first layer comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of ionomer, ethylene/acid copolymer, and carboxyl-modified polyethylene;

a second layer, the second layer being an outer layer as well as being a non-food-contact layer;

a third layer, the third layer being a seal-assist layer, the third layer being between the first layer and the second layer, the third layer comprising a first composition, the first composition comprising:

- (i) a first component comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of polyethylene homopolymer, ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer, ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymer, and ethylene/acrylate copolymer; and
- (ii) a second component comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of elastomer, ~~plastomer~~, homogeneous ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer having a density of from about 0.86 to 0.91 g/cc, ionomer, and carboxyl-modified polyethylene;

a fourth layer, the fourth layer being a memory layer, the fourth layer being between the second layer and the third layer;

a fifth layer, the fifth layer being a tie layer, the fifth layer being between the third layer and the fourth layer; and

a sixth layer, the sixth layer being a tie layer, the sixth layer being between the second layer and the fourth layer.